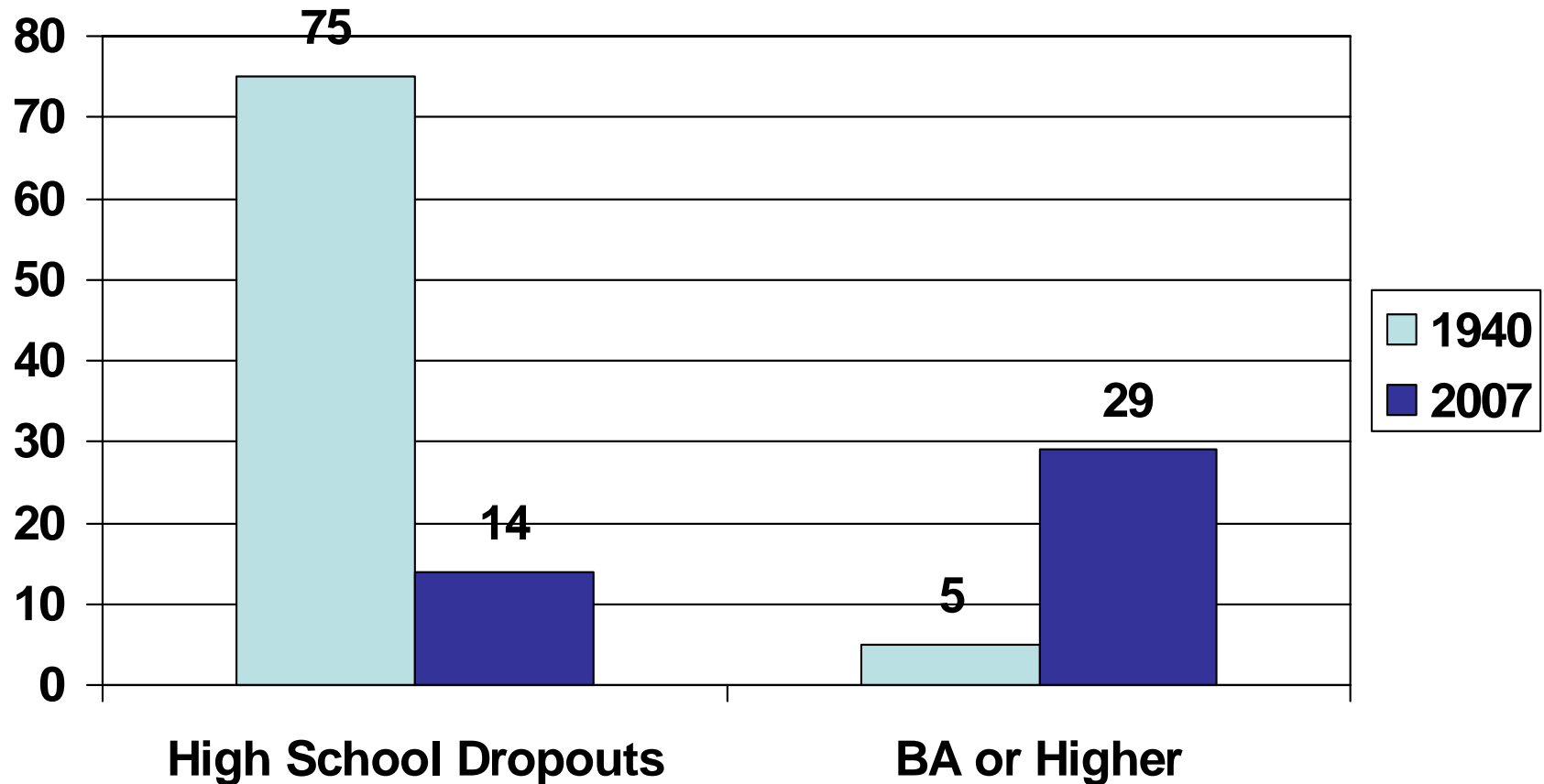


The Decline of the White Working Class and Other Changes in the Class Structure

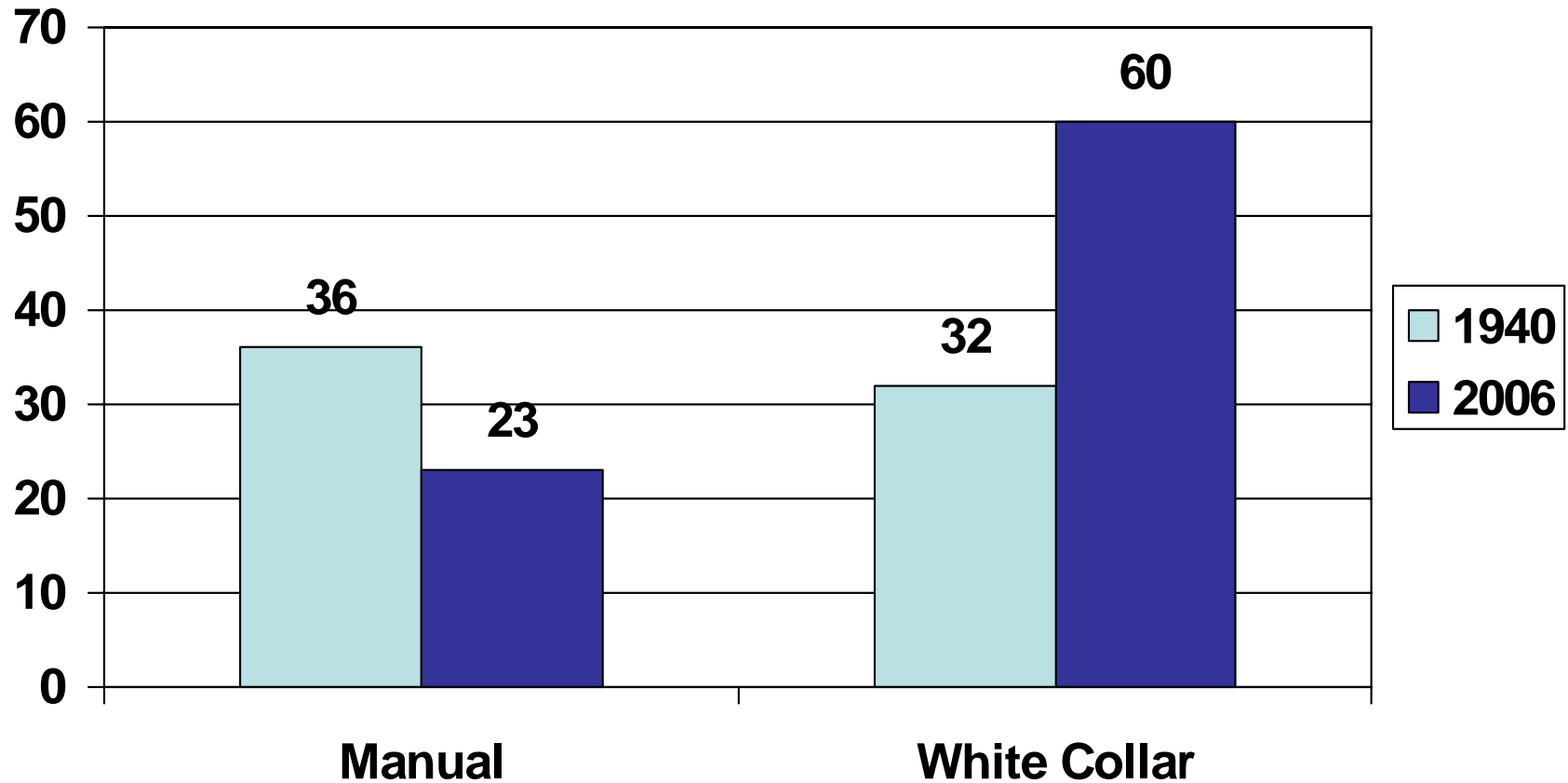
Alan Abramowitz and Ruy
Teixeira

February 28, 2008

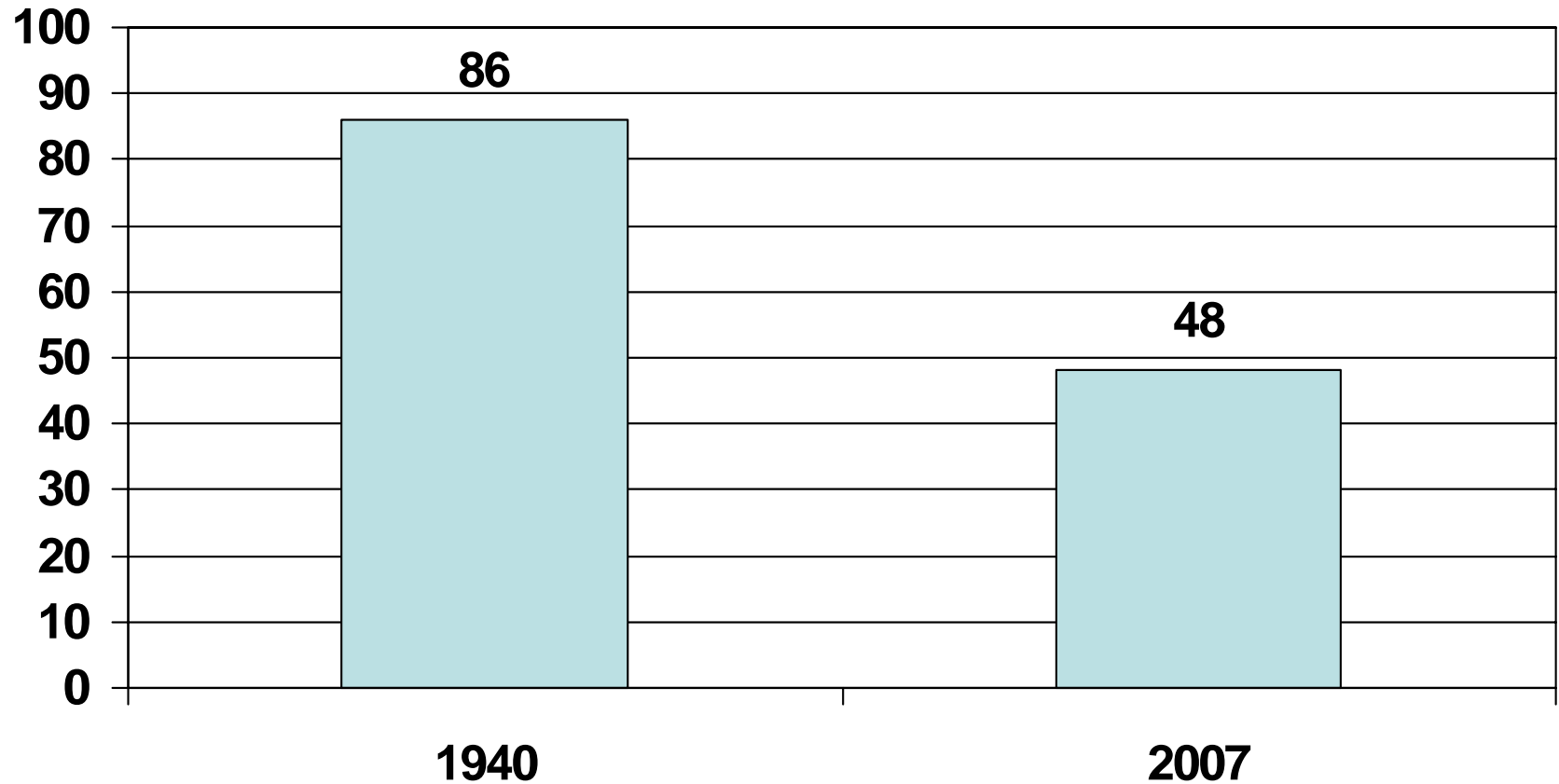
Change in Education Groups, 1940-2007



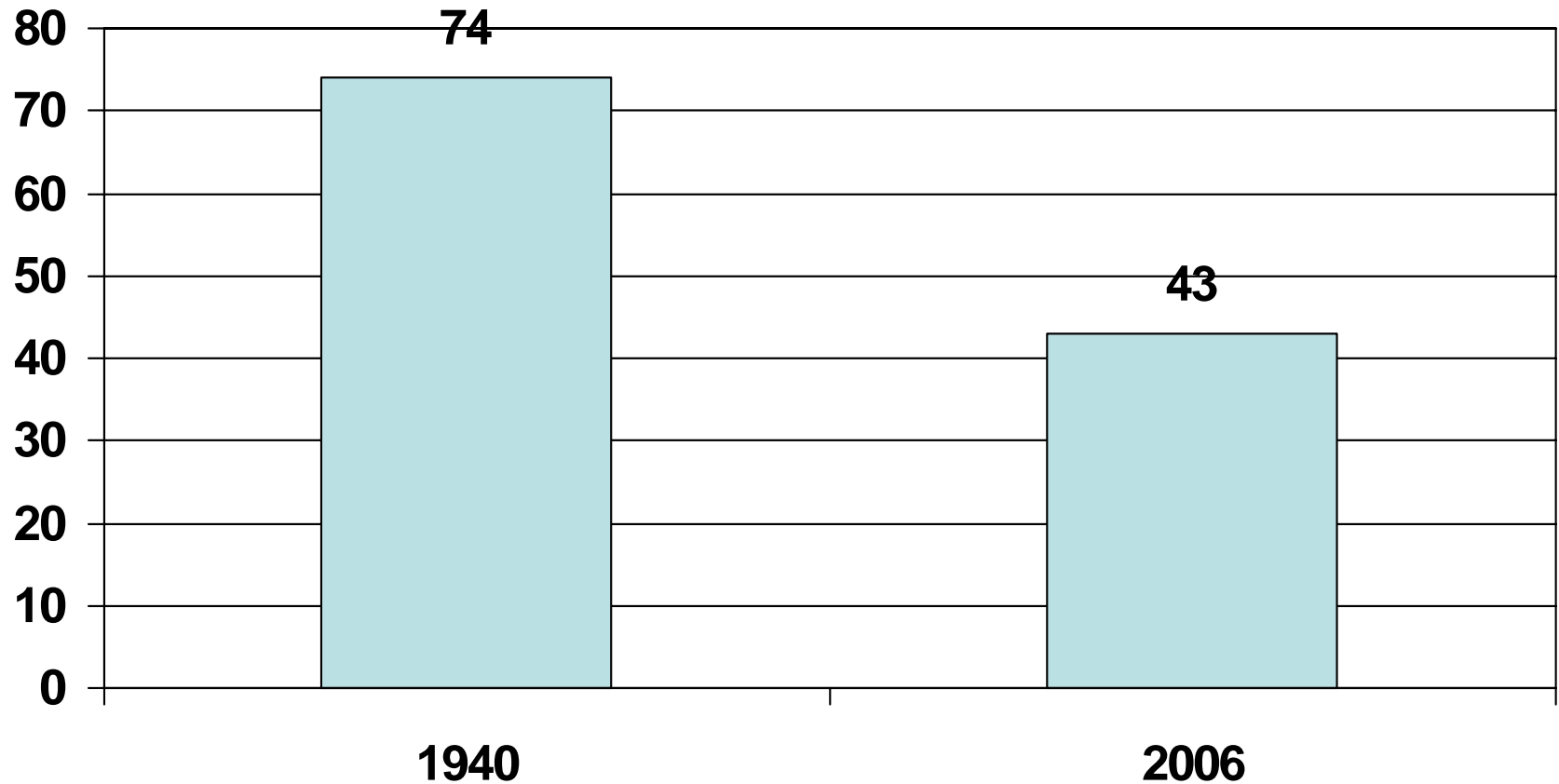
Change in Occupation Groups, 1940-2006



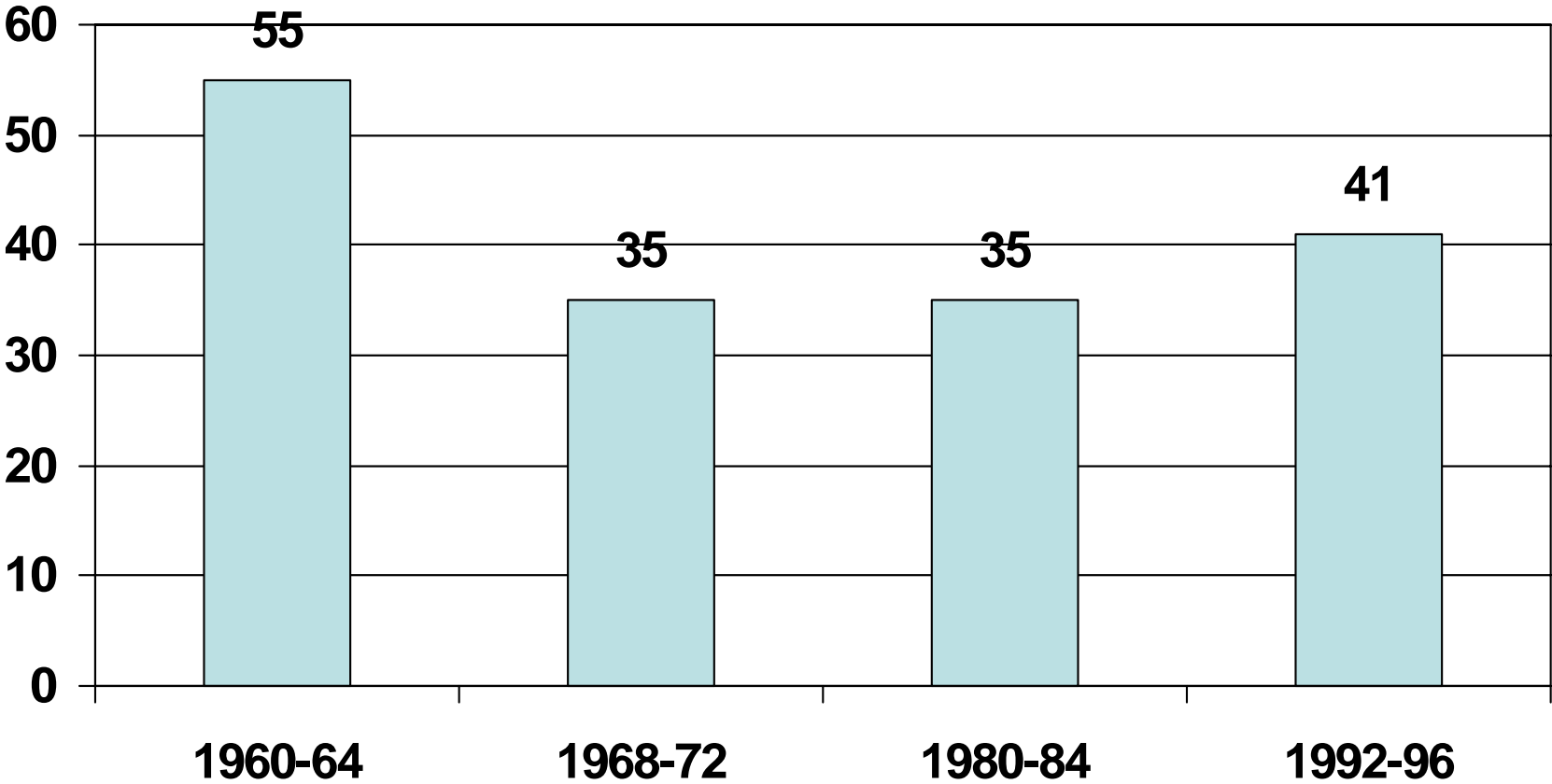
Change in Size of White Working Class (Education), 1940-2007



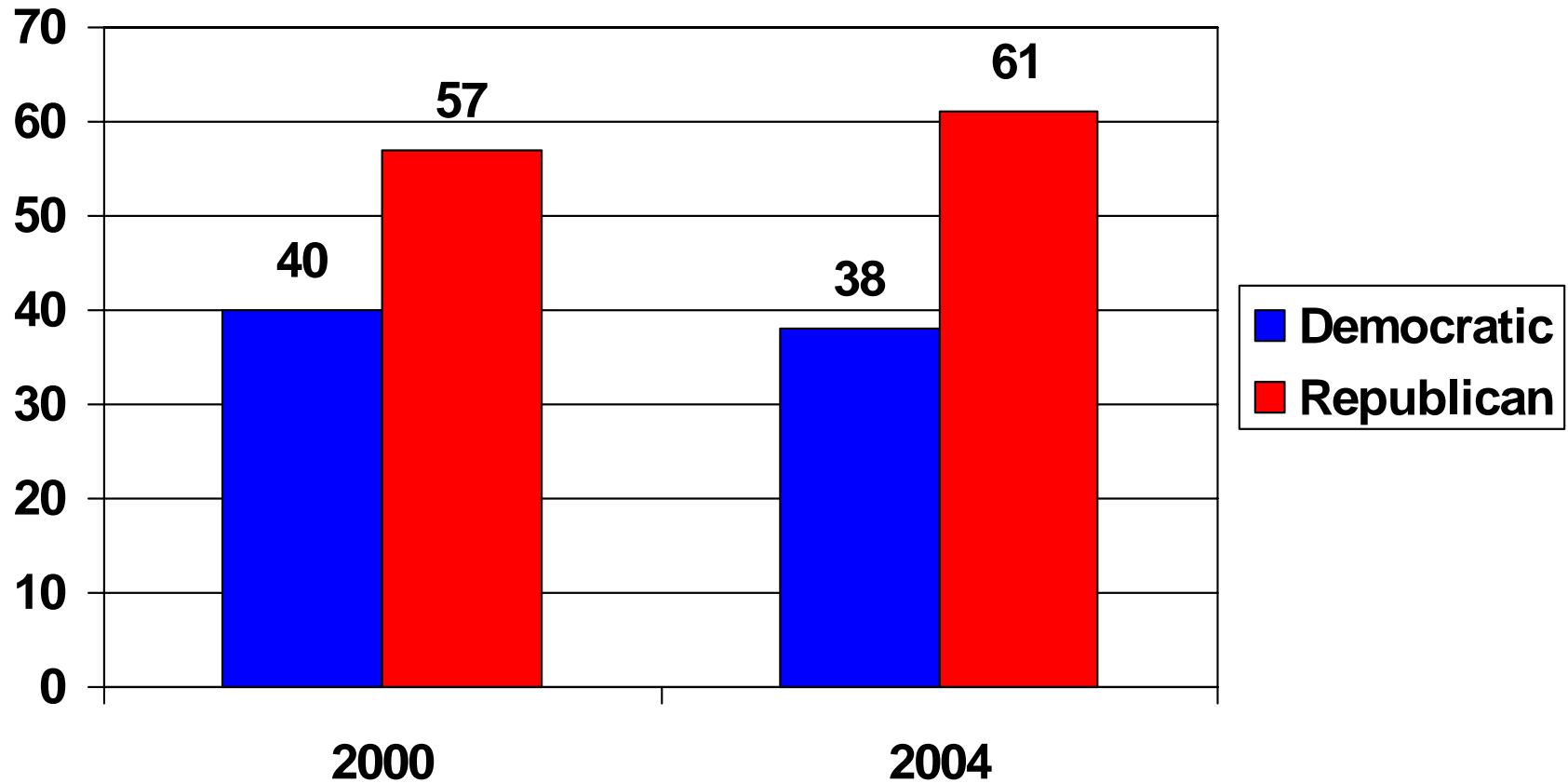
Change in Size of White Working Class (Occupation), 1940-2006



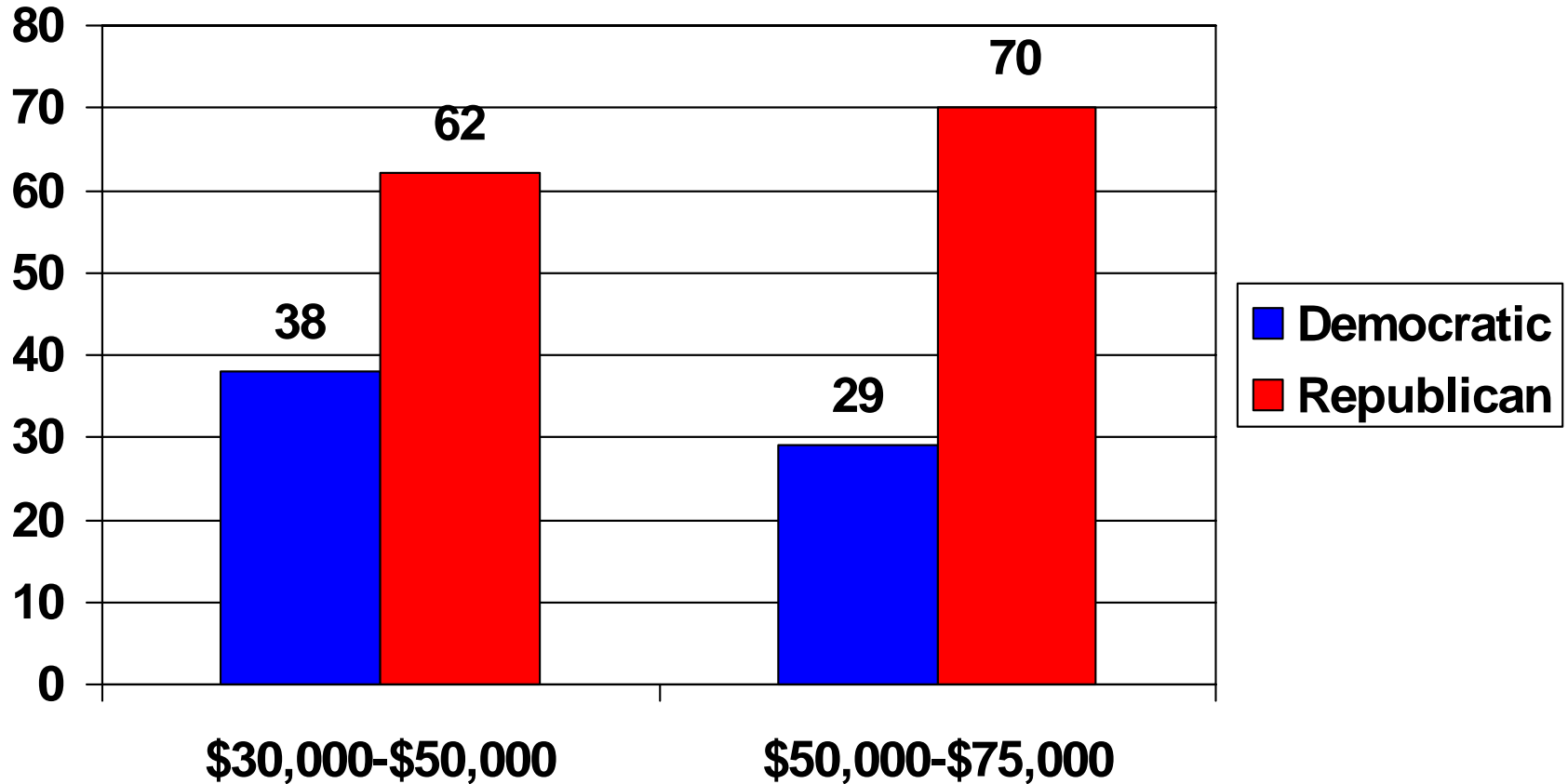
Change in White Working Class Democratic Presidential Support, 1960-1996



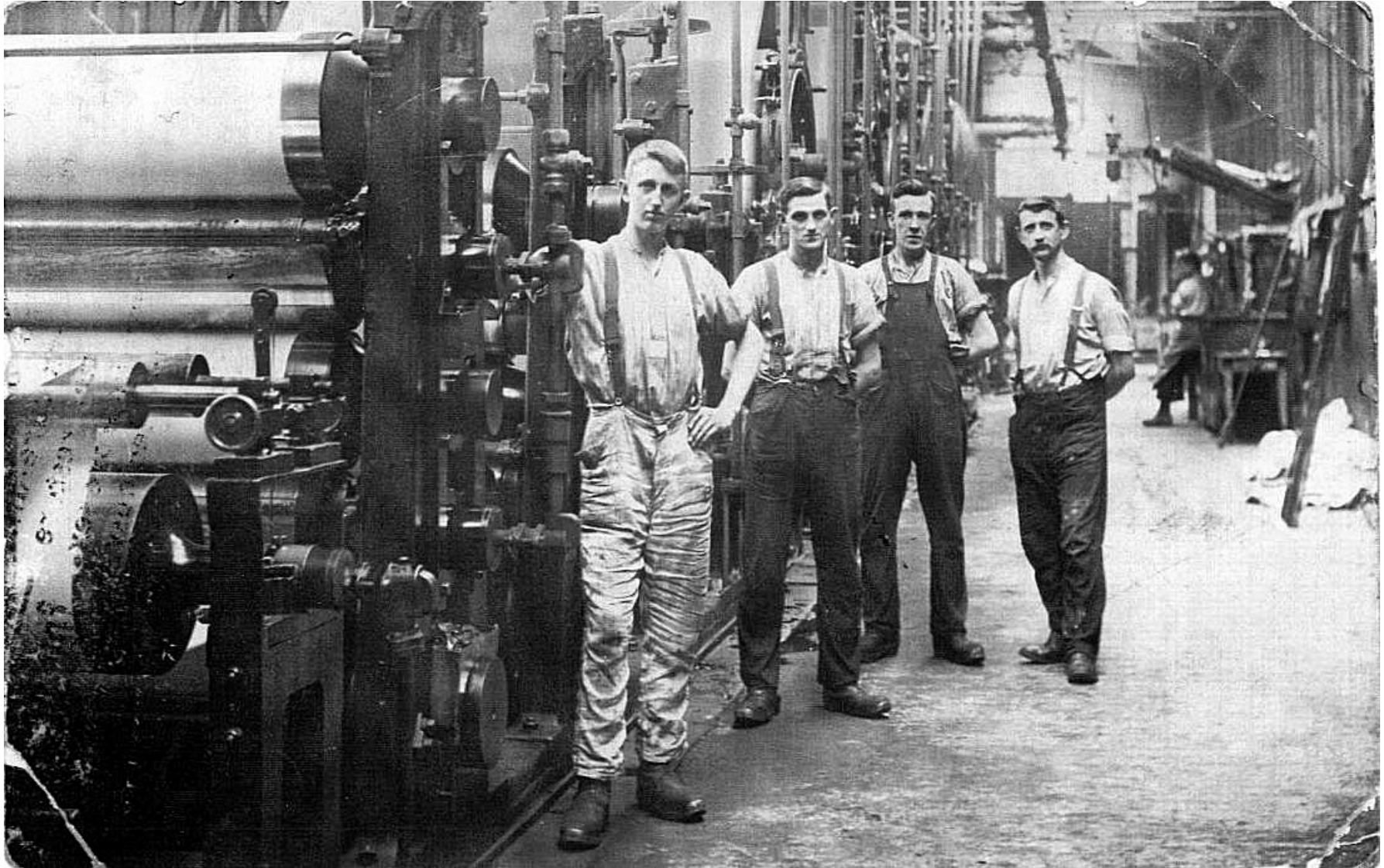
White Working Class Vote in 2000 and 2004



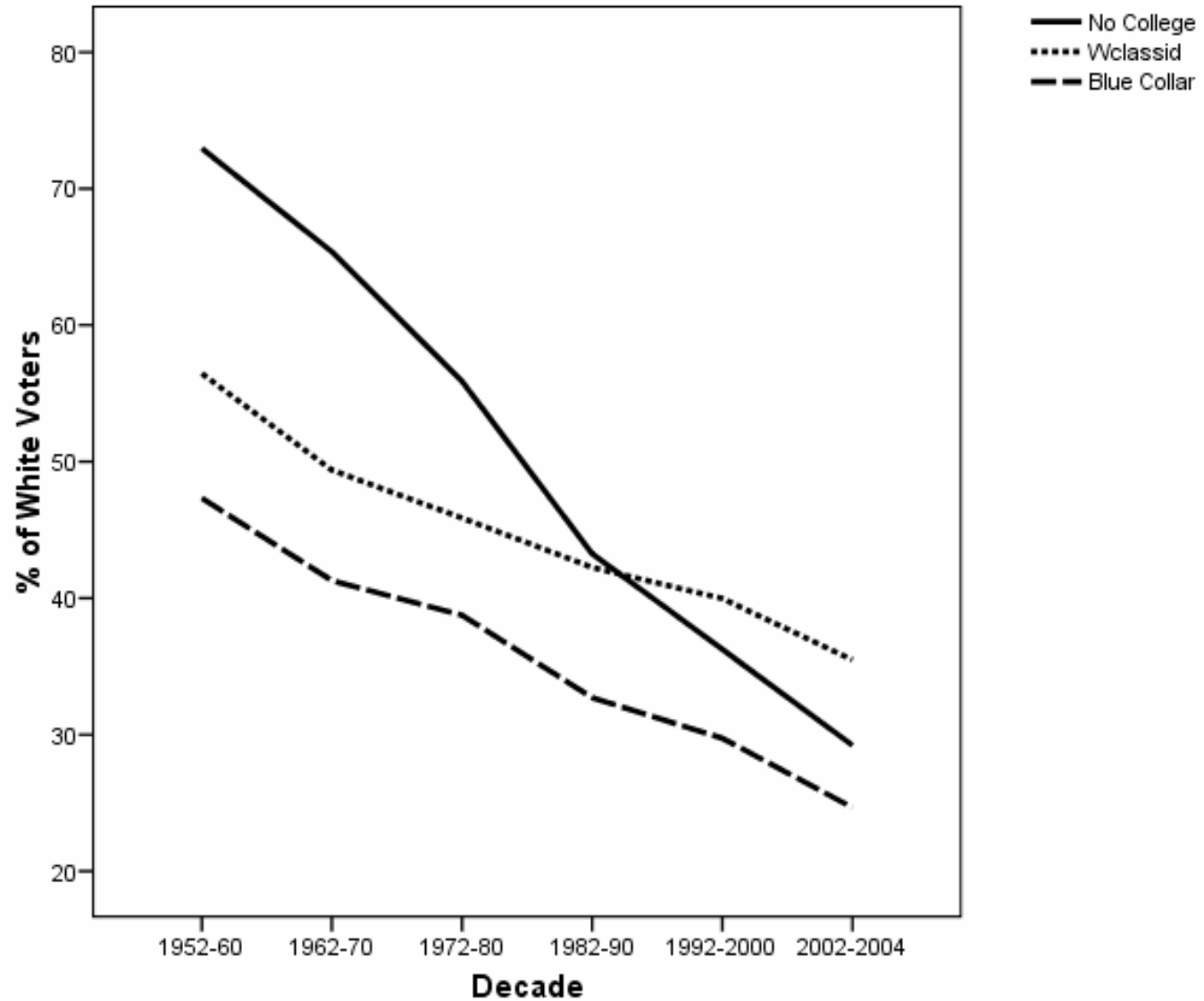
White Working Class Vote, Middle Income Groups, 2004



The White Working Class and the Democratic Party

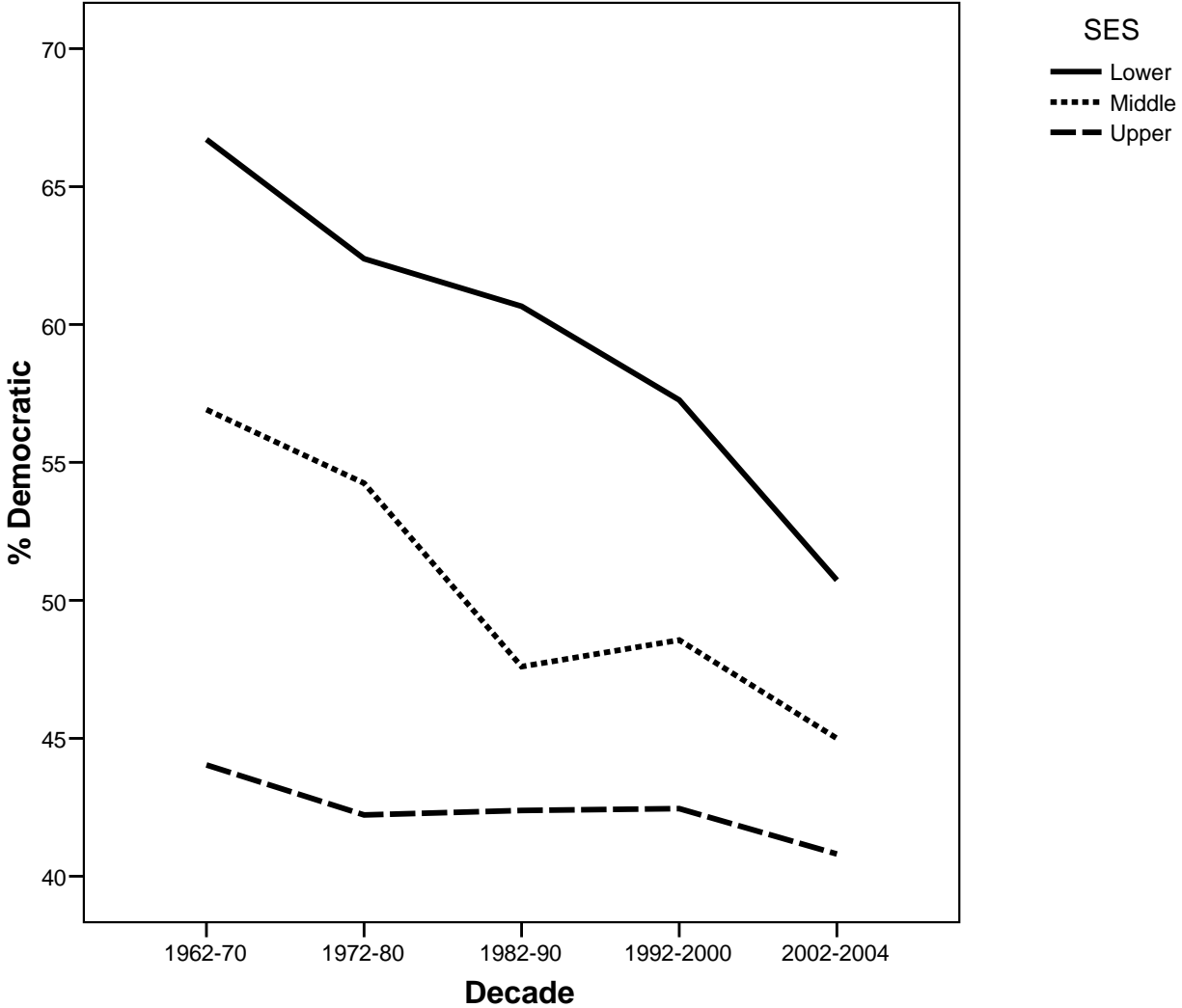


The Decline of the White Working Class



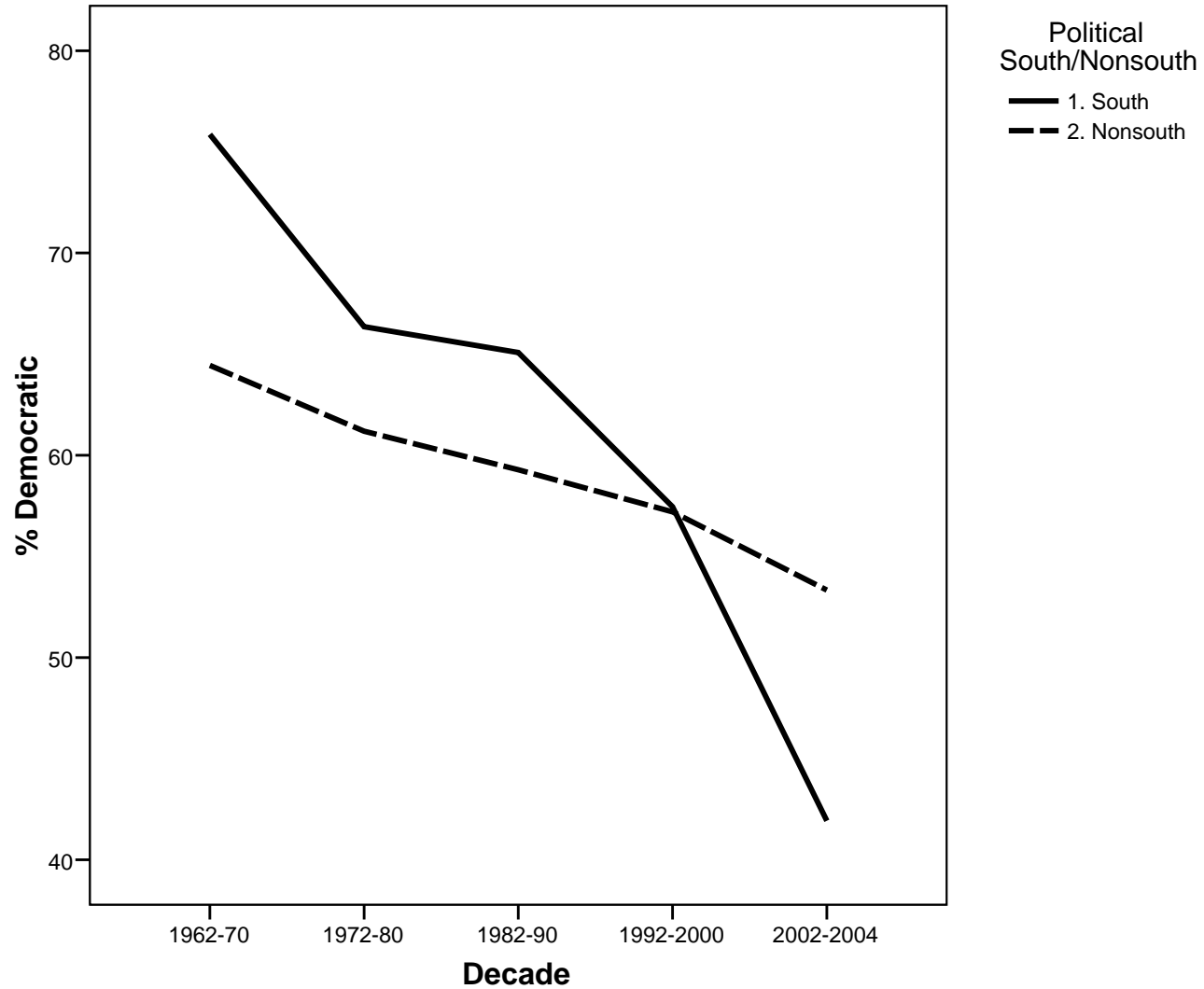
Source: NES Cumulative File

Democratic Identification among Lower, Middle, and Upper SES White Voters by Decade



Source: NES Cumulative File

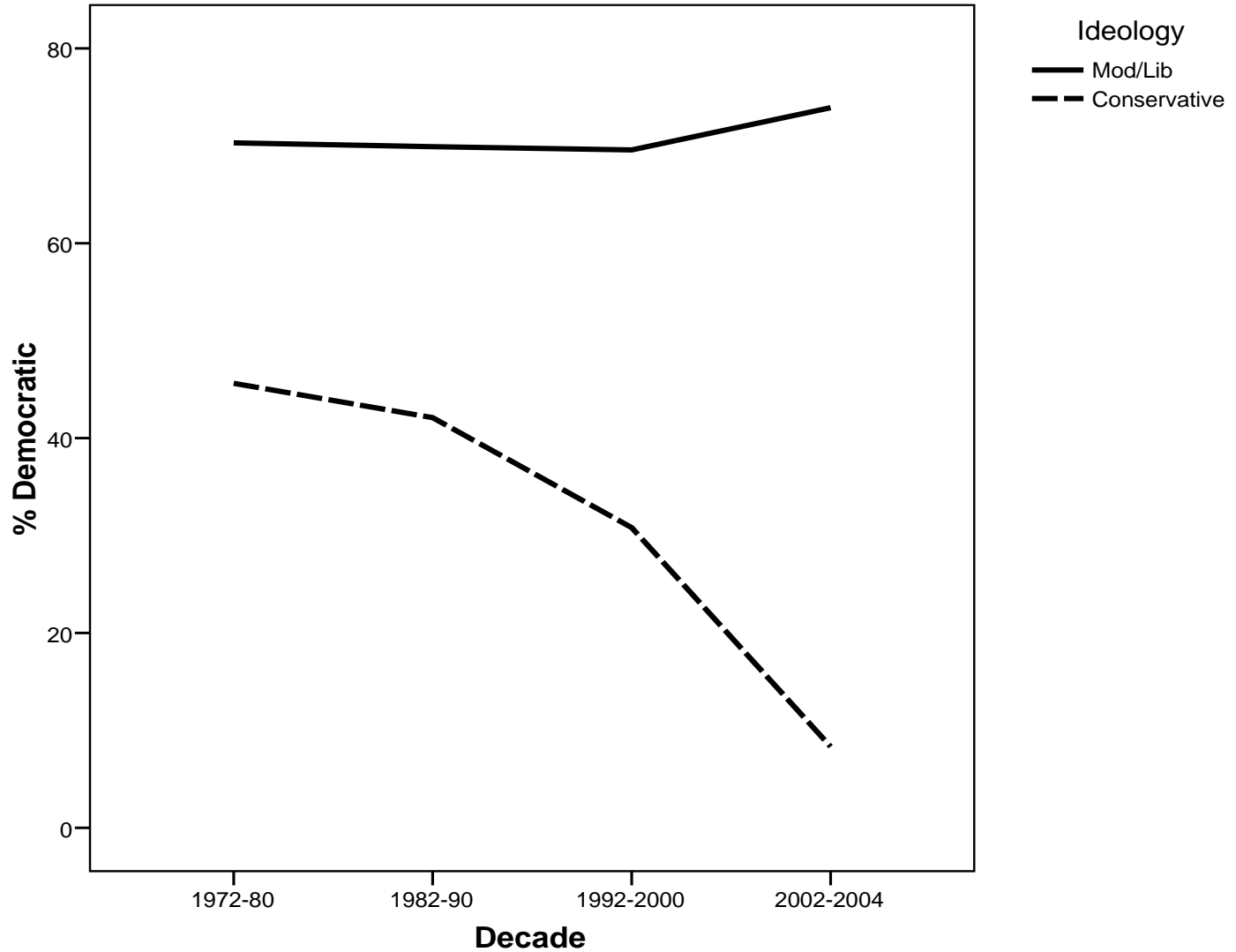
Democratic Identification among Lower SES White Voters by Decade and Region



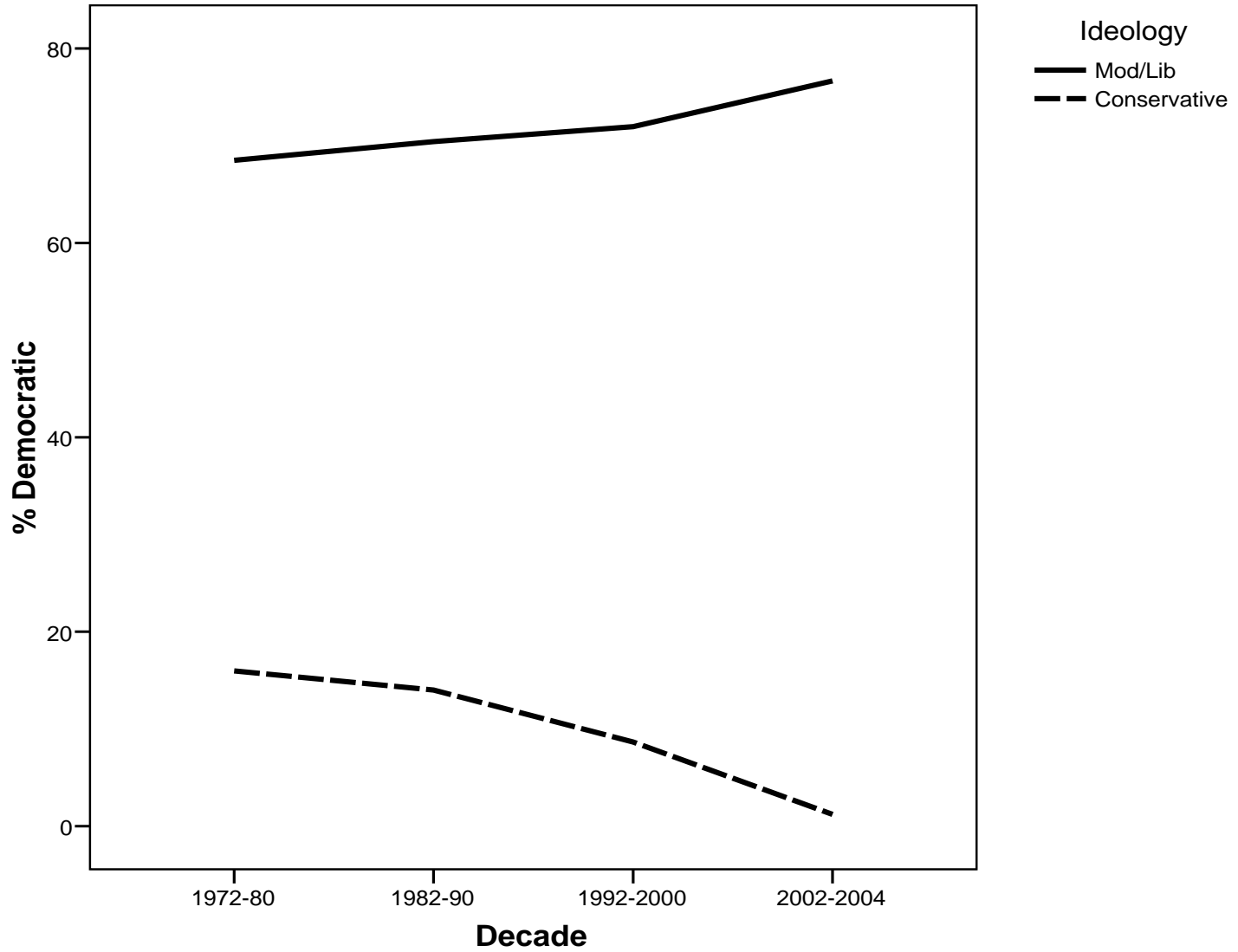
Source: NES Cumulative File

Democratic Identification by Ideology among Lower and Upper SES White Voters by Decade

Lower SES



Upper SES



Source: NES Cumulative File

Democratic Identification by Abortion Position among Lower, Middle, and Upper SES White Voters in 2004

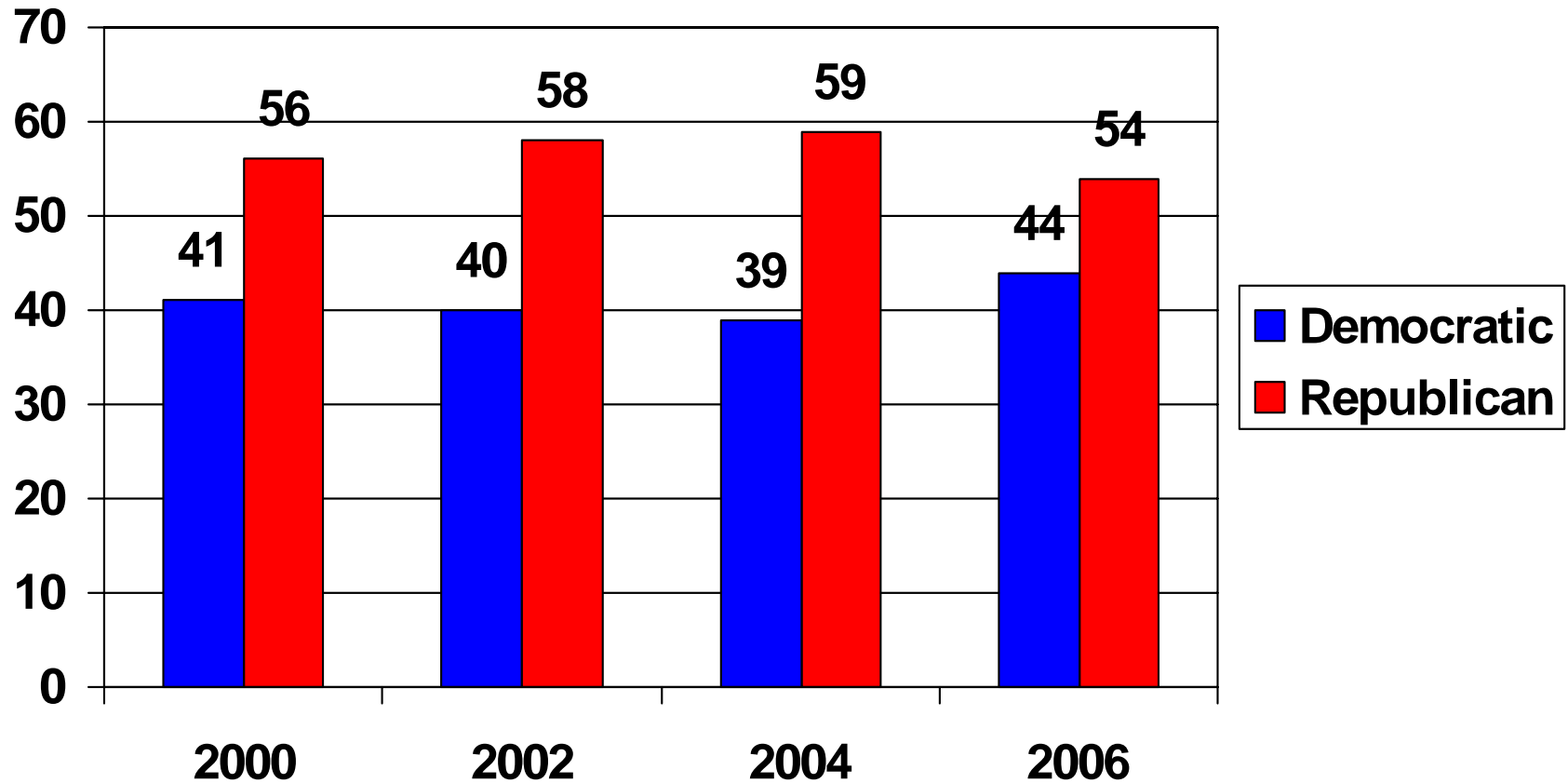
	Pro-Life	Pro-Choice	Kendall's tau-b	Significance
Lower SES	43%	57%	.14	.05
Middle SES	33%	55%	.22	.01
Upper SES	8%	60%	.50	.001

Source: 2004 NES

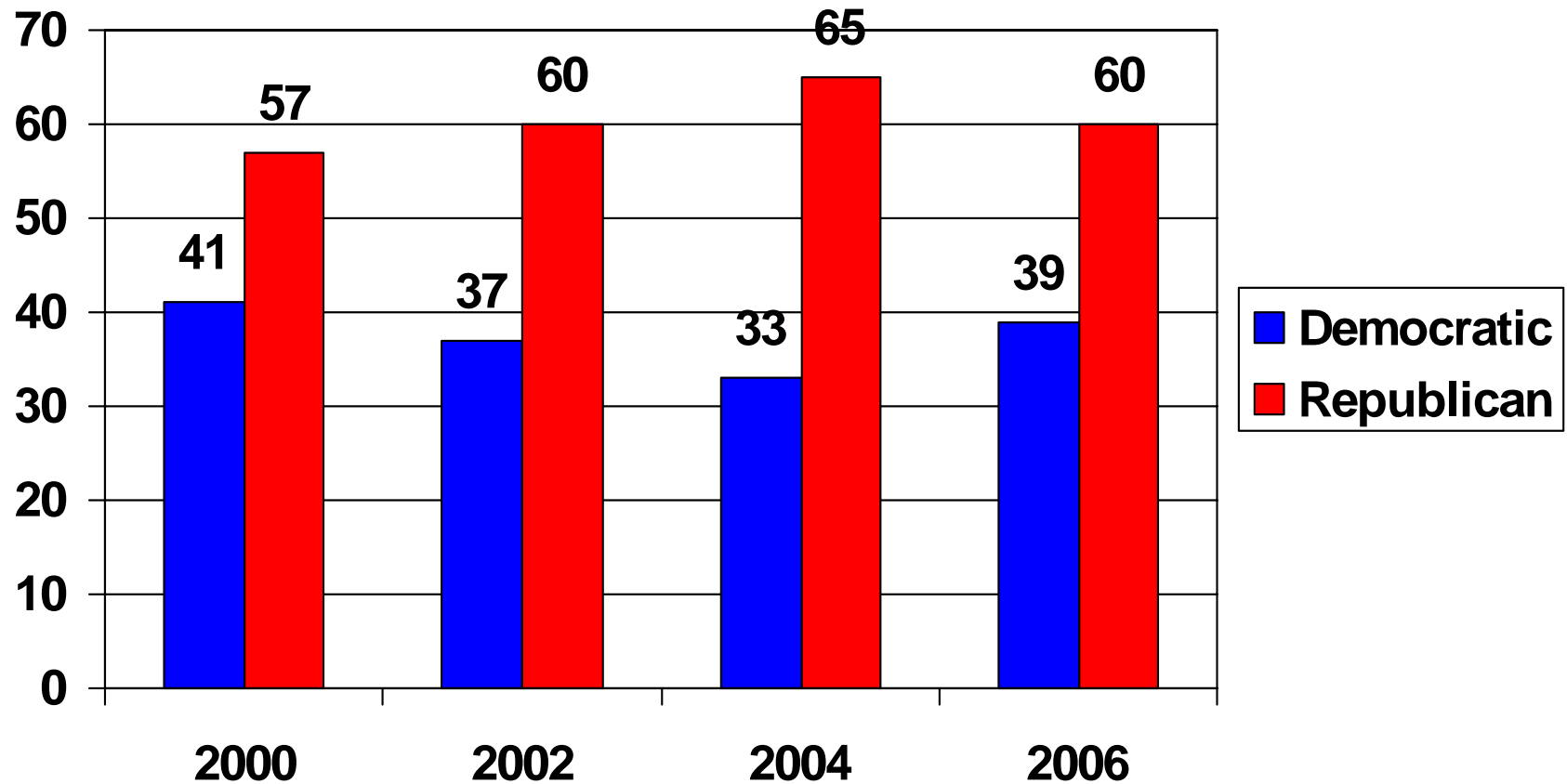
Conclusions

- The white working class makes up a much smaller share of the white electorate than in the past
- Democratic identification among white working class voters has declined dramatically over time
- The party loyalties of white working class voters today are sharply divided along ideological lines
 - Conservative WWC voters have largely abandoned the Democrats
 - Moderate-to-liberal WWC voters, who comprise 60% of all WWC voters, are more Democratic than ever

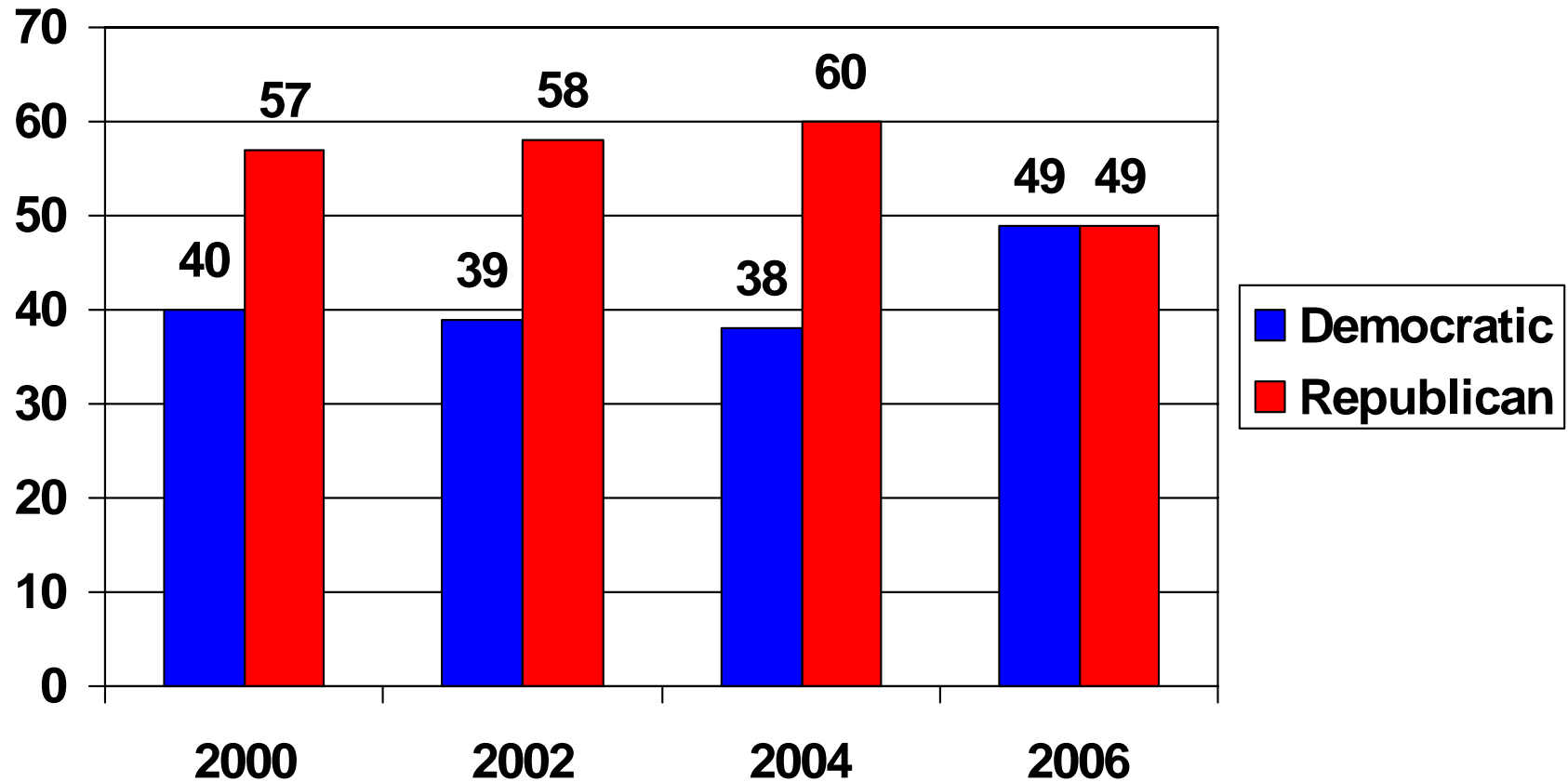
White Working Class Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



White Working Class 50-75K Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



White Working Class 30-50K Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



Projected Change in Proportion White Working Class Voters, 2004-2020

